Fleecing of commuters by Delhi Auto-Rickshaw Drivers

5792. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report captioned 'Delhi auto-rickshaws geared to fleece commuters in the Indian Express of 18th February, 1994; and

(b) if so, what steps are taken to prevent such large-scale fleecing of commuters by auto-rickshaw drivers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) No such report appeared in the Indian Express dated 18th February, 1994. However, such a report had appeared in the 'Pioneer' dated 18th February, 1994.

The Department of Weights and Measures, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, conducted surprise inspections at various licensed repairing workshops of auto-rickshaws and taxi fare meters but no such case of tampering of meters was noticed. However, during periodical checks from 1-1-93 to 28-2-94, 3975 auto-rickshaws and 333 taxies were challaned for broken meters/tampered stamps etc.

Widening of NH-22 from Tejpur (Assam) to Pasighat (Arunachal Pradesh)

5793. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to widen the NH-52 right from Tejpur (Assam) to Pasighat (Arunachal Pradesh) during this financial year:

(b) if so, what is the total amount earmarked for the project;

(c) by when the work is proposed to be started; and

(d) what is the target date to complete the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise

Allocation of Funds for National Highways in North-Eastern Region

5794. DR. B. B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some allocation of funds for National High ways in North-Eastern Region was made in 1993-94;

(b) if so, details thereof, National Highway-wise and if not what are the reasons therefor:

(c) whether Government propose to allocate more funds to National Highways in North-Eastern Region: and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) A sum of Rs. 2315.00 lakhs for development and Rs. 1777.62 lakhs for maintenance and repairs of National Highways have been allocated to the States in the North Eastern Region during 1993-94.

(b) The funds for National Highways are allocated to the States as a whole and not National Highway-wise.

(c) and (d) Due to paucity of funds, it has not been possible to increase the allocation of the funds to North Eastern Region for the year 1994-95.